

**Chaminade University
EN 201 01, Types of Literature
Spring Day Term, 2013**

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Office: Henry Hall 206-D

Office Hours: Tuesday, 2 - 3 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 12: 30 p.m., 1:30 - 3 p.m.

Course Management System

- **This semester we are using a site called Edwebs/Moodle as our course management interface.**
- **The initial login process is as follows:**
 - **Go to the link below.**
 - **Click on the "Create New Account" button and fill out the form to assign yourself a username and password.**
 - **Upon receiving an email back from the site, you will need to click on the url in the message to confirm your account.**
 - **Then go to the course by way of the following url:**
 - <http://www.edwebs.activemoodle.com/course/view.php?id=129>
 - **Contact instructor for enrollment key.**

Course Description

English 201, Types of Literature, provides students with an introduction to literature through the study of poetry, fiction and drama. It also serves as foundation course for the English major and minor programs. The course centers on examining major literary works, including classical Greek drama, Shakespeare, and a range of classical, modern and contemporary poetry and fiction. As is the case with all English courses, this one places a strong emphasis on the continuing development of writing skills, providing students with opportunities to experiment with various types of writing about literature -- critically, personally and creatively.

In response to reading assigned texts and viewing films, students engage in online discussions, prepare essays and take motivational quizzes. The course features a sequence of discussion forums that enables an online learning community focused on course readings and other literary topics. Writings in discussion forums form the basis for three essays that help students focus and articulate their experiences as readers. By the end of the semester, students should have a clearer and deeper sense of what they personally value in literature as well as what has been valuable to human culture.

This semester's course is being conducted as a "hybrid" or "blended" course. As such, the course requires internet access and email. Students are expected to engage in active online discussions and submit all assignments via the course website. Students will also be expected to check email regularly.

Objectives

By the end of the term, students who have been actively and consistently engaged in the course readings, quizzes, discussions and other assignments should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for the major types, or genre, of literature;
- Identify and understand key terminology used in the study of literature;
- Make qualitative distinctions among the wide variety of literary research sources available via the internet and libraries;
- Articulate ideas about the process of interpreting literature;
- Understand and articulate what is of personal, ethical or religious value in the study of literature.

Texts

All of the texts for this course are provided online (free) via this website. Students may read texts online, thus saving the costs of printing; they may print out copies; or they may read conventional printed texts, which are widely available in libraries and bookstores.

The major texts for this course are listed below.

- Emily Dickinson, *Selected Poems*
- Robert Frost, *Selected Poems*
- Sylvia Plath, *Selected Poems*
- T.S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
- Ezra Pound, *Selected Poems*
- William Butler Yeats, *Selected Poems*

- Conrad, *The Secret Sharer*
- Chopin, *The Awakening*
- Edgar Allan Poe, *Selected Stories*
- Bret Harte, "Outcasts of Poker Flat"
- Sarah Orne Jewett, "The White Heron,"
- Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wall Paper"
- James Joyce, "Araby"
- William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
- William Shakespeare, *The Sonnets*
- George Bernard Shaw, *Pygmalion*
- Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*
- [Academy of American Poets Website](#)

Films

The films below are available via the video streaming service available on the Chaminade Sullivan Library's "Films on Demand" service.

It needs to be emphasized, however, that the viewing of films is not a required course activity. Alternatively, students may elect to not view the films and read the texts of the plays instead.

- *Oedipus Rex*
- *Antigone*
- *Hamlet*
- *Pygmalion*

References

- [Chaminade University Catalog](#)
- [Online searching and research help from Sullivan Library, Chaminade University](#)
- EBSCO Online Research
 - Access EBSCO via the [Chaminade Sullivan Library website](#). You will need your Chaminade ID and password in either case. Use the "Academic Search Premier" database.
- [Representative Poetry from the University of Toronto Library](#)
- [Guide to Grammar and Writing](#), from Capital Cities Community-Technical College in Hartford, Connecticut. (Used with permission.)

Requirements

Participation in online discussions (approximately 20%)

Reading journal (approximately 10%)

Essays or other writing projects (approximately 20%)

Quizzes (approximately 10%)

Final exam (approximately 40%)

Participation in online discussions

Students are required to post responses to each discussion question or prompt; the first posting should be a direct response to the discussion question itself; follow-up postings should consist of reactions to other students' postings. Students should keep in mind that the best responses often culminate in the posting of further topical questions.

Reading journal

Students will keep a reading journal, either in conventional pen and ink notebooks or on their computers. Journals should contain free-form responses to the required readings.

The requirement for the journal is a minimum of 30 pages for the term. Journals will be checked at the final exam.

Essays or other writing projects

Two or more short essays totalling approximately 2400 words will be due during the term. Essays for this course will review and expand on the reading, reflection and discussion directly associated with the course. Background research using EBSCO, the library and other sources is also required. An important element in essays for this course is quotation from required readings.

Alternatively, students may be assigned creative projects -- writing of experimental poems, stories or brief dramatic sketches.

In general, writing will be evaluated with regard to: 1. organization, 2. clarity, 3. correctness, 4. conciseness, and 5. creativity.

Follow this link for some [frequently asked questions](#) about writing assignments.

Quizzes

Online quizzes are due throughout the term. They are intended to pace the student through the course's required readings and to provide a useful index of the student's comprehension of the course content.

Quizzes are administered via the course web site. Submission of quizzes is required; they will be automatically graded and should be seen as preparation for the objective section of the final exam, as described below.

Miscellaneous assignments may from time to time be added to the course study guide.

Final Exam

The final exam consists of between two and four essay questions that are distributed during the week prior to the exam. The exam is "closed book."

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

All material submitted in fulfillment of course requirements must be written by the registered student during the term.

Work written for other courses is unacceptable in this one. Limited exceptions may be considered if approved by the instructor early in the term.

While students are strongly encouraged to consult sources outside the required reading of the course, they are also responsible for clearly stating the nature of their sources. Statements of "common knowledge" are generally exempt from this scholarly requirement.

Plagiarism is defined as the presentation of someone else's ideas as your own. Plagiarism in this course will result in a grade of "0" for the assignment and possible failure for the course.

If the instructor suspects plagiarism, the burden of proof of the originality of the writing lies with the student. Evidence of originality would include copies of early drafts of the writing, research and interview notes, as well as the ability to discuss the themes of the writing with the instructor. Students should consider their instructor's vigilance in such matters a normal part of the academic process and should be prepared to present evidence of originality if requested.

Students are strongly advised to save files of early drafts of essays, along with outlines, research notes and other supporting documentation, as the instructor may at any time require that they be presented.

Tentative Course Outline

Unit 1 -- Types of Literature, Types of Readers

- Preliminary Course Assessments.
- Lecture: "Opening up the Canon: I Have a Dream"
- Readings: Poetry of Robert Frost
- Forum: After reading Lecture 1, post an autobiographical paragraph

Unit 2 -- Authority / Authenticity

- Lecture: "How Poems Mean"
- Readings: Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, Emily Dickinson, Sylvia Plath, Shakespeare's Sonnets
- Forum: "Authority / Authenticity"

Unit 3 -- Poetry and Metaphor

- Lecture: "Love is a Rose. Or, What is Metaphor?"
- Readings: William Butler Yeats, William Carlos Williams, T.S. Eliot, Edward Hirsch
- Forum: "Metaphors for Argument"
- Essay 1 Due

Unit 4 -- The Novel -- Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*

- Lecture: "The Novel"
- Reading: Kate Chopin, *The Awakening*
- Forum: "For Others"

Unit 5 -- The Short Story

- Lecture: "The Fusion of Reality and Illusion"
- Readings: Brete Harte, " Sarah Orne Jewett, "Charlotte Perkins Gilman," "The Yellow Wall Paper," James Joyce, "Araby"
- Forum: "Naturalism"

Unit 6 -- Poe

- Lecture: "Poe and the Short Story"
- Readings: Edgar Allen Poe, "The Black Cat," "The Cask of Amontillado," "The Purloined Letter," "The Single Effect"
- Forum. "Truth or Fiction" topic.

- Essay 2 Due

Unit 7 -- Theban Plays

- Lecture: "Tragedy 1"
- Reading: Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*
- Forum: "Oedipus Rex"

Unit 8 -- Theban Plays, continued

- Reading: Sophocles, *Antigone*
- Forum: "Antigone"

Unit 9 -- Drama in Elizabethan England

- Lecture: "More on Tragedy . . . and a Bit about Comedy"
- Reading: Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
- Forum: "To Be or Not To Be"

Unit 10 -- George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*

- Lecture: "From Greek Myth to Broadway Musical"
- Shaw, *Pygmalion*
- Forum: "Pygmalion"
- Final Exam